

Remarks

Reconsideration is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that certain previous rejections and objections to claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 16 have been withdrawn as overcome.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment After Final Rejection. The amendments to the claims raise no new issues that would require further consideration, no additional claims are presented, and no issues of new matter are raised as basis is provided in the specification for each new limitation. The Amendment places the application in better form for appeal. The Amendment was not earlier presented because it was believed that previously presented arguments and amendments were sufficient to overcome the grounds of rejection.

Summary of Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the recitation of dependent claim 4 therein. Independent claims 9 and 13 have been similarly amended to incorporate the recitations of dependent claims 10 and 14, respectively. These amendments are made without prejudice to advance prosecution. Claims 4, 10 and 14 are cancelled as redundant. No new claims have been added. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, and 15-17 are now pending.

§ 102 and § 103 Rejections

The amendments to claims 1, 9, and 13 render moot the rejections over Sawatsky and Casalini.

Accordingly Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections in view of the amendments.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested. Allowance of claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, and 15-17, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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